Amendment Dated March 18, 2004

Reply to Office Action of January 15, 2004

Remarks/Arguments:

Applicant has proposed amendments to various figures of the drawing and various pages of the specification to correct obvious errors and informalities. Applicant further submits that the proposed amendments do not introduce new matter into the application and therefore are proper and should be entered.

Again the Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the careful attention paid to the specification and drawings.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-2 and 4-5 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over British Patent 871,752 in view of Dallmeyer et al. U.S. Patent 5,387,396, and further in view of Deane U.S. Patent 2,744,391 or Matsugi et al. U.S. Patent 5,667,758.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection which is no different in substance from the rejection contained in the previous Office Action, words being rearranged to suit a conclusion that is based entirely on using applicants own teaching to, not only select, but to interpret the references.

Applicant respectfully submits the rejection of claims 1-2 and 4-5 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is not well taken and should be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing arguments and amendments and in view of applicant's willingness to cancel claims 6-20 subject to a right to file a divisional application thereon, applicant submits the above-identified application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner disagrees it is respectfully submitted that the amendment be entered for the purposes of an Appeal.

Respectfully submitted,

James/c. Simmons, Reg. No. 24,842

ECG-100US

Attorpey for Applicant

JCS/mc

Attachments: Figures (15 sheets)

Dated: March 18, 2004

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